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**COLOMBIAN NATIONAL, FUGITIVE FOR A DECADE, ARRESTED
IN MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR, GLOBAL MONEY LAUNDERING CASE**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced the arrest of JUAN GUILLERMO OCAMPO, an alleged member of an international money laundering organization responsible for laundering tens of millions of drug dollars in the early 1990s. OCAMPO was arrested on November 25, 2004, as he arrived at Miami International Airport from Colombia. He had been a fugitive from justice for more than 10 years.

A criminal Complaint ("Complaint") and Indictment ("Indictment") from the Southern District of New York charge OCAMPO with participating, from 1991 through November 30, 1994, in an international organization (the "Organization") that laundered narcotics proceeds from the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. As detailed in the Complaint and the Indictment, the Organization was comprised of more than 30 members who were based in various cities around the world, including in Mulheim, Germany, Zurich, Switzerland, Cali, Colombia, Los Angeles, California, and New York, New York.

It is alleged that, during the period charged in the Indictment, the Organization laundered tens of millions of dollars, almost \$5 million of which was seized by the Government during the course of the criminal investigation. The Organization allegedly operated in conjunction with narcotics traffickers, or their representatives, who would contact members of the Organization in order to arrange drop-offs of large sums of narcotics proceeds - ranging from tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands of dollars. According to the Indictment, the drop-offs would take place on the street or in a hotel in cities in the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada.

The members of the Organization then allegedly transported the money to New York City through a variety of means, including by overnight mail and through the use of human couriers who concealed the money in their luggage or clothing. Once in New York City, it was charged, the money was deposited into bank accounts in Switzerland and elsewhere and from those bank accounts, the money was allegedly transferred to accounts designated by customers of the Organization in the United States and abroad.

The activities of the Organization were facilitated in large part by two practicing attorneys in New York City - Harvey Weinig and Robert Hirsch, it was charged. Among other things, Weinig and Hirsch filed fraudulent claims with the Drug

Enforcement Administration falsely claiming that moneys that had been seized had a lawful source and purpose. Weinig and Hirsch also fabricated documents showing that monies recovered through drop-offs had been seized, when they had not, in order to avoid having to transfer the monies to their customers, it was charged. As stated in the Complaint and Indictment, when pressure to remit the monies mounted, Weinig and Hirsch allegedly fabricated an Indictment against Richard Spence, one of the alleged members of the Organization, as a way of convincing their criminal associates in Colombia that the monies had in fact been seized. It is alleged that two Colombian members of the Organization threatened physical harm to OCAMPO and others if additional funds were not remitted, and, at one point, kidnapped OCAMPO's brother in Colombia to force payment of monies owed.

According to the Complaint and Indictment, OCAMPO, an alleged member of the Organization who operated primarily in Germany, consulted with various members of the Organization about the Organization's money laundering activities, including Leon Shulum Weinmann and Rachel Weinmann, two individuals who allegedly received transfers of funds in Switzerland on behalf of the Organization and remitted the funds to bank accounts designated by the Organization's customers, and Miguel Omar Garrabito Botero, Amparo Hurtado Valencia and Carlos Lopez, individuals who allegedly operated in Colombia, where they

arranged for the delivery of narcotics proceeds to members of the Organization and ensured that funds laundered by the Organization were eventually remitted to the Organization's customers.

The Complaint also describes several recorded telephone calls between OCAMPO and Hirsch, in which the two discussed, among other things, money transfers of hundreds of thousands of dollars, debts owed to individuals in Colombia and elsewhere, and how to handle being questioned by the authorities about large sums of cash.

OCAMPO, a Colombian national, was arrested on November 25, 2004, upon his arrival from Colombia at Miami International Airport. He was presented before a Magistrate Judge in the Southern District of Florida and was ordered detained without bail. OCAMPO arrived in the Southern District of New York today. He is scheduled to appear tomorrow before United States District Judge KEVIN T. DUFFY to face the charges in the Indictment.

To date, 15 other members of the Organization have been prosecuted and convicted on the money laundering and related charges. They are: Hirsch, Spence, Weinig, Chaim Herman, Tomes Peter, Leon Shulum and Rachel Weinmann, Michael T. Kalanz, Gary Salerno, Alexander Schwartz, Daniel Carroll, Jose E. Tanon, Donald J. Hayden, Latchezar Christov and Menashe Leifer.

Assistant United States Attorneys RICHARD SULLIVAN and VIRGINIA CHAVEZ are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Indictment against OCAMPO are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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